NEWS RELEASE



Date: October 26, 2005

District: Los Angeles/Ventura

Contact: Judy Gish **Phone:** (213) 897-3487

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY HELD FOR LEWIS ROAD INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS

CAMARILLO – State, County and local officials, along with community members, celebrated completion of the Lewis Road Interchange Improvement project at a ribbon-cutting ceremony today.

The \$34 million project, which began in the fall of 2002, opened to traffic in June, 2005, as scheduled. Improvements consist of one additional lane in each direction near Lewis Road on the Ventura Freeway (U.S. 101); replacement of the northbound off-ramp to Daily Drive with a new ramp and the addition of a southbound off-ramp; realignment of Daily Drive between Lewis Road and Glenn Drive; removal of the Fulton Bridge; replacement of the old Arneill Bridge with a new bridge; replacement of the southbound Fulton Road on-ramp with a new on-ramp at Ventura Boulevard; widening of Lewis Road from Barry Street to north of Ventura Boulevard; replacement of a pedestrian freeway crossing over the south side of U.S. 101 with a new pedestrian freeway crossing on the north side of U.S. 101 at the Metrolink Station.

Benefits of the interchange reconstruction include reduced congestion, enhanced safety, and improved freeway connections. New on- and off-ramps make entering and exiting the freeway easier. The project also created additional parking areas near the freeway.

"Creating the transportation connections vital to this growing area is a significant Department objective," said California Department of Transportation Deputy Director Raja Mitwasi. "To accomplish this goal, Caltrans is working with its partners, the Ventura County Transportation Commission and the local cities."

###

